

Open House: Join Us!

You're invited to attend an informational open house on October 5, 2005 at the Redmond Library. Share your comments, ask questions and learn about upcoming plans from project staff.

Date: October 5, 2005

Time: 5:00-7:00 PM

Location: Redmond Library
15990 NE 85th

520 West Lake Sammamish Parkway to SR 202

IT'S YOUR NICKEL. WATCH IT WORK.

How Can I Stay Informed?

Your feedback is critical to the success of the WSDOT project to add lanes to SR 520 between West Lake Sammamish Parkway and SR 202. Please stay in touch as we move forward with this project.

Information:
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206-440-4700
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www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/
SR520/WLakeSamPk_SR202/

See Inside for:

- Accelerated plans for flyover ramp
- Traffic improvements
- Working together with Redmond and Sammamish

Project Timeline*

Update design & environmental review	Spring 2004 – Winter 2006
Acquire needed property	Fall 2006 – Fall 2008
Construct flyover ramp	Spring 2007 – Spring 2008
Construct project improvements	Spring 2009 – Fall 2011
Complete project	Fall 2011

*Pending obtaining environmental permits



Fixing the Worst First

WSDOT is accelerating the project schedule to deliver faster results to Eastside commuters. In 2007, WSDOT will be ready to construct improvements.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is tackling a major source of traffic congestion for Eastside residents nearly three years ahead of schedule. In response to need and public requests, the State Legislature recently approved accelerating plans to build a flyover ramp from westbound State Route (SR) 202 to westbound SR 520 to help move traffic more efficiently through the interchange.

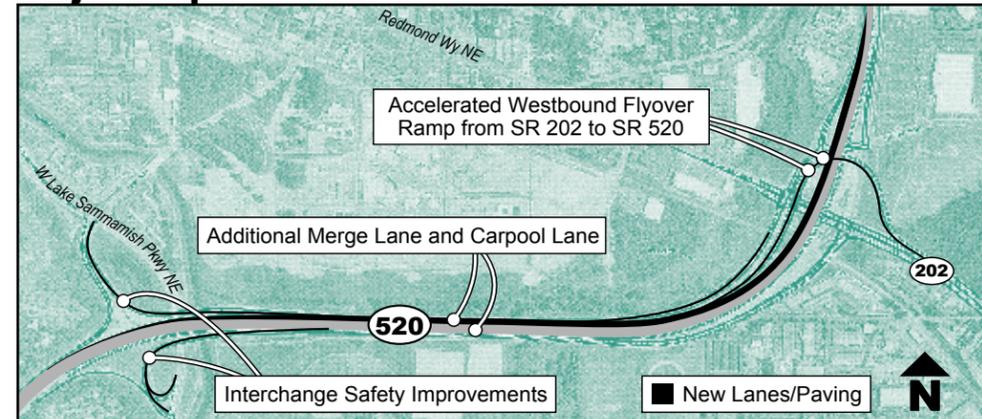
We're Listening, Responding and Delivering

During the spring 2004 open house, community members expressed to WSDOT the need to speed up efforts to relieve backups and ease their commute. The project team found the best way to accelerate the construction schedule is to build the project in stages, starting with the flyover ramp. The new flyover ramp will provide faster and more direct access to westbound SR 520 from SR 202 without requiring drivers to stop at a traffic signal. Building the project in stages allows the ramp to be constructed three years ahead of the original plan to add lanes for SR 520, pending obtaining environmental permits. We know relieving congestion and delivering improvements faster is the best use of your tax dollars.

Early Improvements Delivered

- WSDOT will construct the flyover ramp in early 2007
- The ramp opens to traffic in early 2008
- Coordinated with the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV project and the SR 202 from SR 520 to Sahalee Way widening project

Project Improvements



Overall Project Benefits

- Reduces commuter travel times
- Improves safety by reducing accidents and vehicles running red lights
- Eliminates single lane bottleneck between SR 202 and Avondale Road
- Ties into local transportation improvement projects
- Improves access for transit, vanpools and carpools

Minimizing Environmental Impacts

- Provides new stormwater runoff treatment to benefit fish in nearby streams and rivers
- Reduces sensitive area disturbance with a smaller footprint for the new flyover ramp

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Information:
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SR520/WLakeSamPk_SR202/

Trail Connection Benefits

- Improves pedestrian & bike safety
- Reduces vehicle conflicts
- Provides crucial link for East Lake Sammamish Trail
- Allows for connection to Bear Creek Trail
- Provides an ADA friendly solution
- Improves access for all-modes

WSDOT Studies Trail Connection Options

During the Spring 2004 Open House, many community members asked how WSDOT would be accommodating the East Lake Sammamish Interim Use Trail located where the old railroad tracks had been removed east of the project. King County has plans to extend the trail beyond where it currently ends on the south side of the SR 520 and SR 202 interchange. The trail would provide a link for pedestrians and bicycles to Redmond and the Bear Creek Trail.

Our project team evaluated three options to connect the trail across SR 520. King County is planning for the trail to cross at road level at the SR 202 intersection. WSDOT is considering elevating the trail to improve safety for trail users and reduce the congestion on the eastbound off ramp to SR 202. WSDOT examined two elevated options and one option to build an underground tunnel. Each option was conceptually designed with cost estimates and the preferred option was to build a pedestrian and bicycle bridge with ramped approaches. The decision to include this bridge in the project will require Legislative approval and is expected to be made by Spring 2006.

Traffic Improvements: The End Result

The proposed SR 520 Redmond project is not only adding merge lanes at the West Lake Sammamish Parkway and SR 202 interchanges along east and westbound SR 520 but also additional HOV lanes in both directions on SR 520. This added capacity in combination with the new SR 202 flyover ramp is projected to relieve congestion in both the short and long term.

Congestion relief is projected for evening commutes on eastbound SR 520. As a result, traffic safety and travel times will be improved. Westbound SR 202 traffic will experience time savings and improved access to the SR 520 with the addition of the SR 202 flyover. Added HOV lanes will provide a continuous trip from Redmond to the SR 520 bridge deck allowing carpools and transit seamless access, increased travel speeds and time savings during peak periods.

Traffic Benefits

- Adds lanes
- Relieves congestion
- Improves safety

Existing Conditions



Congestion on eastbound SR 520 during afternoon rush hour



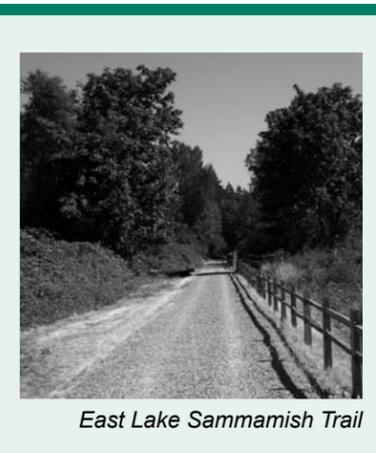
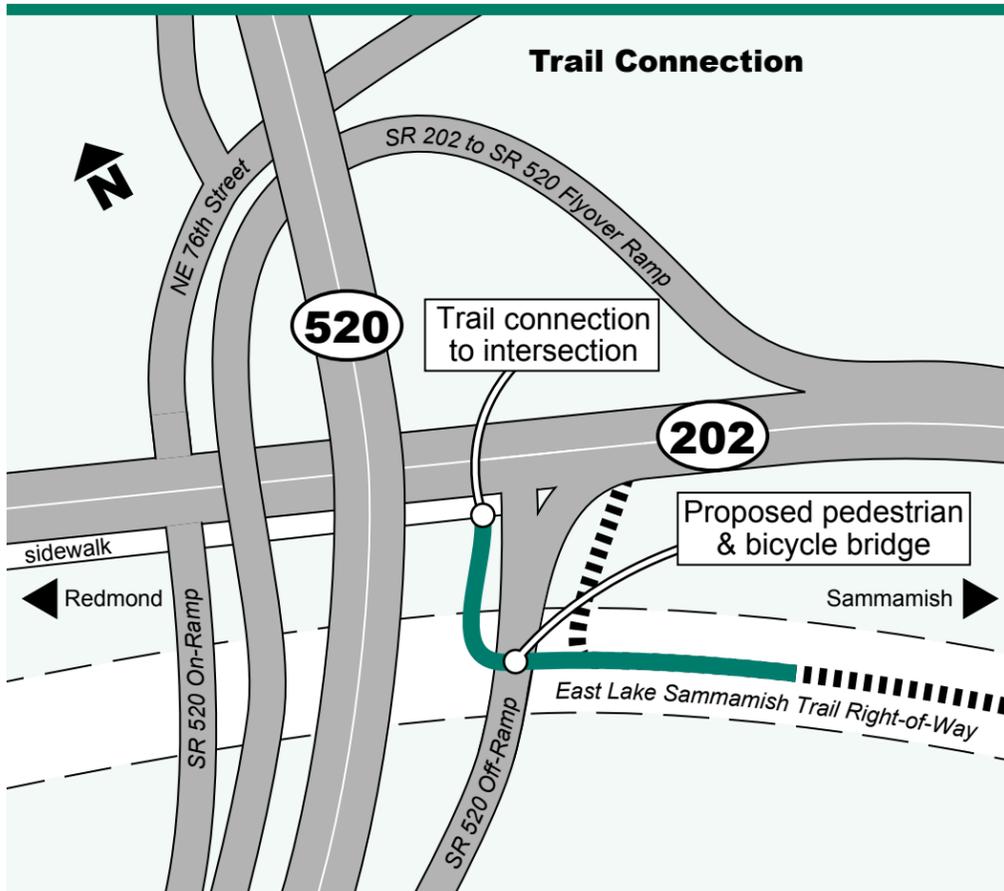
SR 202 backup from SR 520 during morning rush hour



Congestion on SR 520 during afternoon rush hour



Congestion on SR 202 to SR 520 during morning rush hour



East Lake Sammamish Trail

Legend

- Proposed Trail Connection
- ▨ King County Trail Extension

Redmond and Sammamish Weigh In

Many transportation projects and plans are underway in the Redmond and Sammamish areas. In order to coordinate our efforts and identify common goals, we have partnered with the cities of Redmond and Sammamish, as well as King County, throughout the design process. Representatives from both cities as well as state and county staff have participated in pivotal coordination meetings since January 2004.

Planning for Near and Long Term Improvements

Through these meetings, we have gathered input to determine how our project relates to other local efforts. This coordination has provided our team the opportunity to, where feasible, allow for future transportation improvements that may occur in the project's vicinity. The team will continue to involve the cities and other key team members in the review process and assist in the development of the final design and outreach to the surrounding communities.

ADA Statement

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodation may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodation by contacting Ben Brown at WSDOT, 206.440.4528, usually two weeks before the meeting date. Persons with hearing impairments may call Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service (TTY) at 1.800.833.6388, Tele-Braille at 1.800.833.6385, or Voice at 1.800.833.6384, and ask to be connected to 206.440.4528.

Title VI Notice to Public

It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact OEO's Title VI Coordinator at 360.705.7098.

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